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THE FERRUGINOUS PIGMY OWL OF NORTHWESTERN MEXICO AND ARIZONA.

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Ferruginous pigmy owls which have been acquired by the Dickey collections from northwestern Mexico and Arizona during the past several years are so distinct from *Glaucidium brasilianum ridgwayi* of southern Mexico and Central America that they unquestionably constitute a well-marked race. A name and the distinguishing characters are given below.

Glaucidium brasilianum cactorum, subs. nov.

Type.—Breeding male adult, 30225, Dickey collections at the California Institute of Technology; giant cactus grove between Guaymas and Empalme, on the coast of Sonora, Mexico; collected by A. J. van Rossem on April 24, 1930, original number 12940.

Subspecific characters.—Compared with *Glaucidium brasilianum ridgwayi* Sharpe of southern Mexico and Central America; wing shorter and tail longer; coloration in all phases paler and very much grayer; tail in the gray phase banded with brown and buff or brown and rufous, not dark brown and white as in the gray phase of *ridgwayi*.

Range.—Southern Arizona south to Nayarit.

Remarks.—Like most owls of this genus the present species has a red phase, a gray phase, and a rather variable type which is intermediate and is often called the "mongrel" phase. While the series of *cactorum* exhibits these three phases it is rather difficult to compare them with the corresponding phases of *ridgwayi*. Ignoring the matter of tail bands, the color of the upper parts may be relatively compared as follows:

Southern Mexico and Central America	Red	Mongrel	Gray			
Arizona and Sonora			Red		Mongrel	Gray

In other words the red extreme of *cactorum* falls between the mongrel and gray phases of *ridgwayi* in color, but even so is paler in tone.

Texas specimens are not included in the above comparisons even though they approximate very closely the measurements and tail characters of

cactorum. It is my impression at the moment that in color they are best referred to *ridgwayi*, but insufficient material has been examined to be certain as to their systematic status. Ridgway (Birds of North and Middle America, 6, 1914, 798) was inclined to consider them distinct from *ridgwayi*, but whether they constitute still another race can not be decided at present.

As to phase tendencies in regard to sex, there is a marked average difference in that females tend to redness and the males to grayness. However, both extremes of coloration are represented in both sexes.

Specimens examined.—*G. b. ridgwayi*, Central America, 35; Mexico, 24: *G. b. cactorum*, Arizona, 4; Sonora, 15; Nayarit (not typical), 1.

MEASUREMENTS—ADULTS.

	Wing	Tail
	MALES	
27 from range of *ridgwayi*	89–94	56–59
10 from range of *cactorum*	85–90	59–64
	FEMALES	
14 from range of *ridgwayi*	94–100	57–64
7 from range of *cactorum*	91–95	63–67